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A

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 116

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/46/808/Add.1)]

46/191 B. United Nations common system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/268 of 28 June 1991 and, in particular, its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991,

Emphasizing the importance of, and benefits derived from, maintaining a coherent and unified United Nations common system,

Acknowledging that the United Nations common system should be responsive to the special needs and concerns of the participating organizations, while emphasizing that such needs and concerns should be addressed within the common system,

Emphasizing the obligation of all organizations of the United Nations common system to consult and cooperate fully with the International Civil Service Commission and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on matters relating to conditions of service and pensions,

Noting that the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union recognized, in its resolution No. 1024 of 8 July 1992, that the action taken by the Union in regard to a special post allowance was incompatible with the common system,

Considering that the adoption of Administrative Council resolution No. 1024 does not prohibit further payment of the special post allowance,

Recognizing that such payment is in contravention of staff regulation 3.8 (b) of the International Telecommunication Union as well as the accepted norms of the United Nations common system,

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Noting with deep concern that prior consultation with the International Civil Service Commission by the International Telecommunication Union as called for in General Assembly resolution 46/191 A, section II, paragraph 7, had not taken place,

1. Strongly deplores the decision of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union to make payment of the special post allowance to headquarters Professional staff in the circumstances described in paragraphs 33 to 35 of the report of the International Civil Service Commission; 1/

2. Determines that such payment is in contravention of General Assembly resolution 46/191 A;

3. Regrets that the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union did not explicitly exclude further payment of the special post allowance;

4. Reiterates its endorsement of the view of the International Civil Service Commission that the action taken by the International Telecommunication Union in regard to special post allowances is incompatible with the common system;

5. Calls upon executive heads and governing bodies of the United Nations common system to respect fully the decisions taken by the General Assembly, on the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, concerning the conditions of service of the staff, and points out that failure to do so on the part of any organization could prejudice its claim to enjoy the benefits of participation in the common system;

6. Stresses that the action of the International Telecommunication Union should in no way be invoked as a precedent by other organizations or by the Union itself;

7. Calls again upon the organizations of the United Nations common system to refrain from seeking to establish for their staff, whether by provisions in their staff regulations or by other means, additional entitlements and benefits;

8. Requests the executive heads of the participating organizations to consult the International Civil Service Commission and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board prior to the submission of proposals relating to staff conditions of service to their respective governing bodies, in order to avoid action inconsistent with the statute of the Commission and the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund as accepted by the organizations;

9. Requests the International Civil Service Commission, at its current session, to assess the impact on the United Nations common system of resolution No. 1024 of the Administrative Council of the International

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/46/30), vol. I.

Telecommunication Union with respect to the payment of the special post allowance, the interpretation of staff rules and the convening of the tripartite consultative group outside the rules of procedure of the Commission, and to recommend in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session appropriate measures to be taken by the Assembly;

10. Also requests the International Civil Service Commission, at its current session, to propose measures to be undertaken by all organizations of the United Nations common system to enforce and enhance respect for, and adherence to, the common system of salaries, allowances and conditions of service, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, as well as on its consideration of the question of the improvement of the responsiveness of the common system to the concerns and needs of the different organizations;

11. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1993, to review and, where appropriate, strengthen the applicable sections of the relationship agreements between the United Nations and member organizations of the United Nations common system, in particular article VIII of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union, 2/ in order to enhance comparability and further adherence to the goals and objectives of the common system;

12. Requests the International Telecommunication Union to ensure that any consultative meeting convened pursuant to Administrative Council resolution No. 1024 proceeds with the clear awareness that the General Assembly is the authority for determining conformity with the United Nations common system.

88th plenary meeting
31 July 1992

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 30, sect. II, No. 175.